## OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BOB RILEY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DECEMBER 23, 2009

## Governor Riley Receives Federal Disaster Aid Approval for Tropical Storm Ida Damage

MONTGOMERY -Governor Bob Riley today received approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for disaster aid for Mobile and Baldwin counties that were struck by Tropical Storm Ida in early November.

Federal funding is available to state and eligible local governments and certain nonprofit relief organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by Tropical Storm Ida.

"I want to commend our emergency management professionals for the hard work and dedication they put toward getting this disaster aid for the affected areas," Governor Bob Riley said. "Brock Long and his team at Alabama EMA continue to make Alabama a model for other states when it comes to disaster response and relief."

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures for all counties and tribes within the state.

"Ida proved that a tropical storm can be as dangerous and destructive as any Hurricane," said Alabama Emergency Management Agency Director Brock Long. "Regardless of how late in the season the storm forms or how it is classified, a citizens' level of preparedness is critical for their safety."

Application procedures for local governments will be explained at a series of federal/state applicant briefings with locations to be announced in the affected area by recovery officials. Approved public repair projects are paid through the state from funding provided by FEMA and other participating federal agencies.

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For more information, contact the Governor's Press Office at 334-242-7150.